

THE APOLOGY FOR WAR

by Greg Shelton

His mother's huge body heaves a horrendous sigh
As the war is now over.

Over now
For Larry.

The War was fought valiantly, intently
because. . . .
Now it's hard to remember
A cause.

Perhaps the cause is Mr. Slaker
Airplane maker
For the war.
Shiny silver airplanes that shimmer as they soar.

Perhaps the cause is Mr. Munds
Maker of guns
To kill the cruel enemy.

Cunning, cruel caustic enemy.
Perhaps the cause is Mr. Tacker
Undertaker
Who tick-tacked tacs
For Larry's tinsel-trapped coffin.
Ask Slaker, Munds, and Tacker.
The profit was worth the cost.

And Larry was but one of the many flag-draped.
How stupid, how small, how unpatriotic
For Larry's mother to cry
And heave her huge body
In a horrendous sigh.